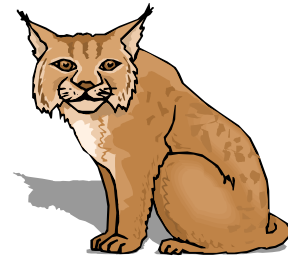




Bobcat Tales



News from Milan Village School

February 2010

Principal's Pen

January was a blur at the Milan Village School. This time of year we really get a lot done academically and it is wonderful to walk around the school and see how far all of the students have come in such a short time.

We will be skiing at Nansen on Thursdays in February again this year. To have a wonderful Nordic ski area in our backyard is an amazing benefit and we hope that everyone gets a chance to take advantage of it. We will meet at Nansen around 3:00. It will be informal and everyone is welcome. There won't be any childcare provided because we want to get everyone in the family out skiing. Snowshoers are also invited.

The Student Council sponsored a fundraiser for Haiti. We collected change during the month of January and the proceeds will go to a charity that was set up by John Roberge. Mr. Roberge lives in Groveton and has been working on behalf of Haitian children since the 1980s.

Thank you to the 6th graders for organizing our MVS Beach Day.

Everyone had a great time pretending it was a few degrees warmer and playing summer games in the gym.

We are excited to be returning to the Balsams for our ski program. They offer a wonderful experience for MVS. Please remember that the deadline for signing your child up for the ski program is February 8th.

Winter Carnival will be held on the 19th of February. Details will be coming out soon. Winter Break is the week of the 22nd - 26th Mr. Backler

Grade 3

We are learning all about Canada here in third grade. Each child was assigned a province/territory to research. How convenient that I have 13 students! Perfect! We will be doing research in class as well as computer class.

We have learned all of our letters in cursive!

We will now concentrate on connections.

It was great to see so many of you at Open House last week. Our Canada map came out great! Thanks for coming to see us!

We continue to learn and grow here at school. I am so proud of their hard work and dedication to learning.

This was reflected in their Progress Reports ~ keep it up! *Mrs. Parker*

Greetings from the 4th grade!

Here we are $\frac{1}{2}$ way through the year! Can it be possible?

So many things are going on in the 4th grade that at times it can be dizzying. Our Europe Unit is drawing to a close and yet we are launching our Credit Union Unit without a day's rest. The CU Unit has the kids chomping at the bit. It seems that this unit has become the rite of passage for 4th graders at MVS. We will anxiously wait to see who the wealthiest student will be this year. I will send more information home to you soon.

Many people may not know that the 4th graders are participating in a statewide study of the white-tailed deer. We must measure snow depth and minimum temperature everyday starting Dec. 1 and going until Apr. 30. All of our data is sent to the state wildlife managers and compiled with data from other schools and organizations to see what type of winter our deer population is having. So far, we can safely say, the deer are not having an extremely difficult winter. Conditions haven't been too severe for them. Soon we will be charting our own information to see how things are in Milan. It is always great to use real data to graph and chart in the classroom.

Let's hope we get more snow - this recent rain really put a damper on snow activities! Happy Winter!

Grade 1

Progress reports went home on Monday the 25th. First graders are all doing very well in all areas. I am very proud of them and their progress.

Mid-winter Open House was very nice. It was good to see many parents, grandparents, and an older brother visit our classroom and then go to lunch with their first grader. Thank you so much to those of you who were able to attend.

Our afternoon with an AMC worker was postponed due to rain. We have rescheduled for the 8th of February. First graders were really disappointed but they understood that it would be hard to have winter fun in the rain. Hopefully the weather will be much better for us on the 8th.

Please remember that there will be an early release for the children on the 2nd of February. They will be dismissed at 12:30.

School Spirit Day will be Friday the 5th. Our theme this time is TWIN DAY! The first graders are already planning for this and are very excited about it. This is definitely a favorite!!!

Reminder- ski registrations are due on Feb. 8th. This is a wonderful program. The students truly get a lot out of it.

Have a Fantastic February!!!!

Mrs. Daniels

Grade 6

Wow, where has January gone? Sixth grade has been hard at work. Our research project is coming along great. We have finished all of our

interviews and will now compile all of our data and begin writing our research reports. Math is going very well. We are working through fraction operations and ready to head into working with integers.

In library, sixth graders are in the process of writing their own mystery. I can't wait to see how these stories come out! Thank you Mrs. St. Gelais for working with us! Our next big event is the Spelling Bee. Please come join us this Tuesday, February 2nd, at 9am in the library.

Sixth grade wrote great reports on the fourteen furbearers of the Northeast. We used our knowledge of furbearers to create a movie using Audacity and Movie Maker! Also, we are going to begin thinking about the Science Fair by deciding on topics in the next couple weeks!

Beach Day was a blast! The sixth graders worked very hard on choosing appropriate age level games and organizing them. The afternoon was a big hit! Nicely done, sixth graders!!

It was great to see all of you who were able to make it to the Mid Winter Open House.

Have a happy and safe February!
Mrs. Goulet

PE - Mrs. Doucette

All classes are working on their Presidential Fitness Challenge & jump roping skills. Our American Heart Association Jump/Hoop-a-thon is

coming soon...February 17.

Parents/guardians are welcome to participate, help out, and/or cheer their class on...come on down and...**don't forget to collect your pledges & bring them in on Feb. 17!**

The older students will also be learning about how stroke is a leading cause of death & disability. There are things we all can do to improve our health & our chances of surviving a stroke. The key is to remember the "Three R's" for life:

REDUCE your risk of having a stroke. Ask your doctor for help.

RECOGNIZE the warning signs (see list below).

RESPOND immediately to a stroke. Talk with your family about what you would do if you or someone else had one or more warning signs. Calling 9-1-1 immediately is the best way to get help fast. You may even save a life!

THESE ARE THE COMMON WARNING SIGNS OF A STROKE:

1. Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or acting clumsy.
2. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.
3. Sudden weakness or numbness in the face, arm or leg, especially on just one side of the body.
4. Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
5. Sudden very painful headache with no known cause.

Stroke warning signs may be temporary, lasting anywhere from a few minutes to almost 24 hours. If the warning signs start to occur, don't wait: **Call 9-1-1 immediately!**

School Spirit Day
Friday, February 5
TWIN DAY!

WINTER OLYMPICS

Go For The Gold

TRIVIA CHALLENGE

The 2010 Winter Olympics will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia.

- 1. A Canadian city hosted the Winter Olympics once before, in 1988. Which city was it?
A. Toronto
B. Montreal
C. Calgary*
- 2. True or False: Sled dog racing was once a part of the Winter Olympics as a demonstration sport.*
- 3. Which U.S. city has never hosted the Winter Olympics?
A. Lake Placid, NY
B. Concord, NH
C. Squaw Valley, CA*

Answers can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Grade 5

In science we have been working on the three Laws of Motion and will be doing simple machines that involve everyday use. Students have been constructing simple machines using K-nex and identifying the 7 parts of a simple machine.

We are reading a Junior Great Books story called Kaddo's Wall. It tells a story of a man who has everything he could ever want in life and then loses it all. Take some time to ask your child about the story.

In history, we have been involved with the Thirteen Colonies and will be finishing up on the southern colonies. Students have been studying the 50 states and their capitals. *What is the capital of Minnesota?* Hope that parents have been helping to study at home.

The Revolutionary War will be starting in our classroom. Students will be involved with recreating battle scenes in the class along with learning how to march. They will get a firsthand experience on what it is to stand up for your rights.

6th Grade News: We are reading a story called Raymond's Run. The story is about a young girl named Squeaky who is an athlete. Her brother Raymond has a physical disability and at the end of the story she realizes that he has a special ability. Ask your child about it! 6th graders are working on a Renaissance Fair. The students are working on their speeches and are planning a big celebration on February 12th in the gym from 9:00-11-30.

Mr. Roberge

Music - Mrs. D

We have a variety of projects going on this semester. The younger grades are learning about the instruments of the orchestra, making straw oboes, playing recorders & learning about music theory.

The upper grades are also learning music theory & are also getting into some theatre. Their challenge is to take a fairy tale of their choice & learn how to present it in sign language. We may take it a step further & add sound effects to demonstrate how the color tone of an instrument can mimic and/or enhance characters & actions.

Preschool

Hi everyone and welcome to 2010! It's hard to believe that the month of January is over already. This past month the preschoolers have been learning about penguins and where they live. The students learned that the father penguin takes care of the egg by holding it on his feet for 2 months!

Both 3 and 4 year old groups have been working on letters and making projects which are helping them learn shapes.

In February, the Preschoolers can look forward to Valentine's Day activities. The class will be making mailboxes and exchanging valentines with each other.

It won't be long and we'll be on vacation!
Mrs. Leveille

Hello from Kindergarten!

Wow! We've been so busy that the time is just flying by. All of the children are very excited to be reading books in Guided Reading! We've finished lowercase letters and are quickly reviewing uppercase letters. The children are also learning to write many different words using beginning sounds and some adorable invented spelling.

In math, we're working on counting backwards, estimating, and graphing. Our science unit on sound was really fun! Everyone made a drum, a guitar, and then played in the Kindergarten band. The students had turns making up musical patterns that

we had to figure out and copy using various instruments.

We will be focusing on Junior Great Books for our read-alouds during February.

It was very nice seeing so many parents and grandparents for our Mid-Winter Open House.

Happy Groundhog Day!

Mrs. St. Gelais

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Our January author of the month was Patricia Polacco! She wrote many great books including Rechenka's Eggs, Mrs. Mack, Mr. Lincoln's Way, Pink and Say, and Thunder Cake. We've been enjoying lots of terrific fiction and informative non-fiction during Library class. 3rd Graders have been learning about the Caldecott Award winners and looking at the wonderful illustrations. 4th Graders have started getting familiar with all 10 sections of the Dewey Decimal system. 5th Graders are beginning to work on research skills. They continue to do their book reports. 6th Graders have all finished reading a mystery and note taking sheet. They are working on writing their own mystery now. I can't wait to read the final stories! Happy Reading!
Mrs. St. Gelais

Student Council News

Thank you to everyone who donated to Change for Haiti!

From the Nurse

February is American Heart Month - remember to wear red on Friday, Feb. 12.

A heart-healthy lifestyle includes making wise daily food choices. Complete the attached worksheet - what healthy food would you choose?

Mrs. Collins, RN

Grade 2

We would like to welcome Mrs. Remillard to the second grade classroom. She is completing her student teaching in our classroom after lots of coursework through Plymouth State University.

Second grade students are finishing their studies of China. You can ask them any of the following questions: Which is bigger, China or the US? Which has more people, China or the US? How are the flags

of China and the US the same or different? Is having more people in your country a good thing or not such a good thing? We will be completing our studies of China with lessons about Chinese New Year, Chinese writing, special animals in China (pandas) and special landforms and features in China. As you listen to the news, please help your student "hear" about any news that is related to our China studies. Mrs. Morse

Special Announcement

On Friday, February 12 Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Doucette will be putting on a Family Fun Night. We will be contradancing, which is a lot like square-dancing. Beginner dancers are welcome. Dancing will be from 6:30 to 7:30.

Do you have a new phone number or change of address? The successful delivery of information is dependent upon accurate contact information for each student, so please make certain that we have your most current information. Thank you.

Answers to Winter Olympics Trivia:

- 1. C - Calgary 2. True, in 1932 3. B - Concord, NH

This is a note to say "Thanks" for helping out and donating your time and effort to the Milan Village School.

Now.....we want to get credit for all the hard work you have done😊.

So....if you haven't already documented your time on the volunteer calendar, please fill in the blanks below with a little information about when and what you did to make MVS better today than it was yesterday.

Name Date Hours Event

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